

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.
VOLUME XXXI. No. 147

AMUSEMENTS TO-MORROW EVENING.

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SUNDAY EVENING.—GRAND SACRED CONCERT, at Irving Hall.

New York, Sunday, May 27, 1866.

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CONGRESS.

The Senate was not in session yesterday, having on Friday adjourned over to Monday.

The House, contrary to the usual custom this session on Saturday, transacted considerable business. The Senate amendments to the bill relating to passports were considered. A bill was introduced and referred to the Military Committee to provide for computing the benefits of veteran volunteers, which proposed to exempt the one hundred dollars veteran bounty from the completion of what is to be deducted under the bill to equalize bounties, which passed the House on Friday. After the transaction of some other business of no general interest consideration of the Tax bill was resumed in Committee of the Whole. A new paragraph was added imposing a tax of two and a half per cent on the gross receipts from passengers and mails of railroad, canal, steamboat and stage companies. An amendment was offered to allow horse railroad companies to add the tax to the fares, but it was rejected. The paragraph repealing the section of the existing law was amended so as to make it take effect on the first of September next. Mr. Stevens moved to amend the sixteenth section by striking out the words "the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to appoint an officer in his department, who shall be styled commissioner," and insert the words "Congress, by concurrent action, shall elect a special commissioner." In urging this amendment Mr. Stevens said he was opposed to giving any more patronage to the Secretary of the Treasury when it could be avoided, or to any of the other subordinates of a "recess President." Several republican members opposed the amendment, and Mr. Stevens, ascertaining that there was no quorum present, withdrew it, and shortly after the House adjourned.

THE CITY.

A mass meeting of Fenians was held at the Cooper Institute last evening, when James Stephens delivered a short address on the present condition of the organization, and afterwards, in answer to a number of questions, gave some interesting particulars relative to the Fenian movement.

Deputy Health Officer Russell stated that there were no admissions or deaths on board the hospital ships at the Lower Quarantine on Friday and Saturday.

The committee appointed by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to deliberate on the best material for street paving held a meeting on yesterday evening, at which some specimens of new stone were submitted. It was resolved to invite the opinion of Messrs. Crover and Brevort in the adoption of a suitable material, which would be afterwards recommended to the city authorities.

The Conference for the New York District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church held morning and afternoon secret sessions yesterday at the Zion church, corner of Bleeker and West Tenth streets. Another session will be held to-morrow morning.

The strike of the ship carpenters, caulkers and joiners will continue. The strikers intend to have a public demonstration to-morrow (Monday) to show that they are resolved upon continuing their demand for the eight-hour system.

Another heavy case of embezzlement was made public yesterday. Louis A. Collin, late a clerk in the banking house of Dunbar, Sherman & Co., is charged by one of the firm, Mr. W. E. A. Mackintosh, with embezzlement of money, railway bonds and other securities to the amount of \$40,000. Collin, the alleged defaulter, is a native of Prussia, is thirty-five years of age, and has been living abroad since he left the employ of the above firm in 1864. He was committed to the Tombs upon the affidavit of Mr. Mackintosh.

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In this event the armed intervention of Napoleon might drive both Prussia and Austria into terms of peace which would give the lion's share of the spoils to France. Bismarck, therefore, is acting shrewdly in this alliance with Italy; but, in any event, let war be commenced between Prussia and Austria or between Austria and Italy, the reconstruction of the map of Europe is in the hands of Napoleon and the Czar, and such are the interests of each that each may leave the other, with certain easy conditions, to pursue his own game.

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The elements and the danger of a general European war still exist; nor will they disappear until Napoleon shall have recanted his declaration of the treaties of 1815 and agreed to enter into a European congress or until, at least, a conference between England, Prussia and France shall have been agreed upon. While Napoleon remains free to take his own course, he means war, and by war to enlarge the boundaries given to France by the Holy Alliance. War is not so imminently threatened as it was a few days ago; but the political situation remains substantially the same.

THE OPERATIONS OF THE EXCISE LAW.—Some curious features relative to the operations of the Excise law are being daily developed. Over half a million of dollars has been paid for licenses, and somewhere near five thousand grogshops and liquor selling places generally have received the coveted privilege of dispensing the ardent beverage to law. It would seem that this army of licensed liquor sellers is sufficient to accommodate any ordinary population; but this is, unfortunately, not the case; for there are hundreds, perhaps thousands, of places in the city in which liquor is sold without license. When the keepers of these places are brought before the authorities for an infraction of the license law, their plea is that inasmuch as they have no license they are not amenable to the statute. The courts have so regarded the cases and dismissed the complaints. It may be inferred from this that it is better to sell liquor without a license than with one; and as one of the curious operations of the law this view of the matter is deserving the prompt attention of the Commissioners. In regard to selling wines and other liquors on the Sabbath the law is evaded in various ways; and besides being practically inoperative in many cases it throws a loose and disorderly class of persons in great numbers upon suburban resorts. At the hotels it is only necessary for a person to order his wine a day in advance to enable him to have all he desires. It appears also that a law has been discovered in the title of the law; a circumstance which, if carried before the courts, is calculated to vitiate all the operations under the act. It would not be the least curious effect of the law, if this view be sustained by high legal authority, to find the Excise Commissioners complained of for obtaining money under false pretences. This whole business of excise is overdone. The Health Commissioners, in connection with the excise, are also running the whole subject of temperance and sanitary regulations into the ground. They seem to lay awake nights thinking of what harmless beverage the people may be deprived of upon the score of improving their health. Not content with stopping the sale of ale, porter, lager beer and all spirituous compounds, they have made an onslaught upon mineral water, plain soda and other innocuous fluids, and are endeavoring to banish them from public places. One of the commissioners—no doubt a learned savant and a philosopher of the pure water grub school—objects even to the use of Croton water in sprinkling the streets. It is all folly to carry reform measures to such absurd extremes. The streets should be kept clean, the sewers cleaned, tenement houses purified; the bone and fat boiling, gas and the many other nuisances which abound in the city should be abolished. This is proper work for the Health Commissioners, and not, like the Board of Excise, to make silly raids upon soda and gingerpop fountains.

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If these careless financiers were the only sufferers there would be little pity for them; but the whole moral tone of society is contaminated and the stream of commercial life is poisoned. Frauds of a stupendous character have been made so easy that the wonder is they do not occur more often. If employers will place temptation in the way of their employees they must expect to be deceived. If they hold immense values in bonds and stocks with so

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AMUSEMENTS TO-MORROW EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE. Broadway, near Broome street.—Satan in Paris.—Jenny Lind.
WOODS THEATRE. Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.—The Silver-Plas de Fougation.

THEATRE FRANCAIS. Fourteenth street, near Fifth avenue.—Les Femmes de Paris.—The Doctor of Alcantara.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE. 201 Bowery.—Singing, dancing, burlesque, &c.—The New York Ship Company.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS. 385 Broadway, opposite Metropolitan Hotel.—European Singing, Dancing, &c.—Maestro A. La Manna.

BRYANT'S MINSTRELS. Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broadway.—Singing, dancing, burlesque, &c.—The Learned Harlequin.

HOOVER'S OPERA HOUSE. Broadway, opposite Metropolitan Hotel.—Singing, dancing, burlesque, &c.—The Learned Harlequin.

BROOKLYN ATHLETIC.—Behind Tom's Farewell Concerts.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 615 Broadway.—Open from 10 A. M. till 10 P. M.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF DESIGN, corner of Twenty-third street and Fourth avenue.—ART EXHIBITION.

SUNDAY EVENING.—GRAND SACRED CONCERT, at Irving Hall.

New York, Sunday, May 27, 1866.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisements to insure a proper classification should be brought in before half-past eight o'clock in the evening.

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